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the vessel wall, the positioner including a flow passageway capable of allowing fluid to flow past the positioner; and

a sensor capable of receiving the information from the at least one receiver and determining the temperature at the at least one receiver based upon the information received.

16. (Amended) A method for determining a temperature at a vessel wall of an vessel, the method comprising the steps of:

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providing a receiver insertable into the vessel, the receiver being adapted to receive information regarding the vessel wall;

advancing the receiver in the vessel;

allowing fluid to flow past the receiver without occluding the vessel;

transferring the information from the receiver to a sensor; and

determining the temperature of the vessel at the receiver with the sensor.

23. (Amended) A method of locating inflamed plaque on a vessel wall of a vessel of a patient, the method comprising the steps of:

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providing a receiver, the receiver being adapted to receive information about the patient;

selectively positioning the receiver in the vessel;

allowing fluid to flow past the receiver without occluding the vessel; and

determining whether inflamed plaque is present based upon the information received from the receiver.

REMARKS

In the present application, claims 1-29 are pending. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-29. The applicant has amended claims 1, 9, 16, and 23. In response to the Office Action mailed October 4, 2000, each one of the cited references has been reviewed and the rejections and objections made to the claims by the Examiner have been considered. The claims presently on file in the above-identified application are believed to be patently distinguishable over the cited references, and therefore allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.